

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Ozinga Tire Fire - Removal Polrep
Initial Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial Polrep
Ozinga Tire Fire

Chicago, IL

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Date: 9/15/2018

Reporting Period: 9/14/2018 to

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:
Response Authority: OPA	Response Type: Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category:
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:
Mobilization Date: 9/14/2018	Start Date: 9/14/2018
Demob Date:	Completion Date:
CERCLIS ID:	RCRIS ID:
ERNS No.:	State Notification:
FPN#: E18523	Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

The Ozinga Tire Fire occurred on the Midwest Marine and Rail Terminals Property located at 11701 Torrence Ave, Chicago, IL. The site is currently being used to store materials for later sale. Among the material is tire scrap (shredded) which caught on fire for unknown reasons. The largest of scrap tire pile measured close to 50-feet high and 100-feet wide before being knocked down by water used to suppress the fire. The total volume of tire scrap is unknown. The site is surrounded by industrial properties to the north and south. To the east the site is bordered by the Calumet River followed by industry. To the west is South Torrence Ave followed by City of Chicago Park 565. There are a few residential houses to the northwest (0.3-miles), a residential neighborhood to the west (0.85-miles) and south (1-mile)

1.1.2.1 Location

The site is located at 11701 Torrence Ave, Chicago, IL

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Burned tire scrap breaks down into oil product among other constituents. The oil becomes mobile due to water used to suppress the tire fire and may travel via sewer drainage or over land flow to the closest water body. The nearby waterway is the Calumet River located 0.13-miles east.

Burned tire scrap may become a threat to air quality due to the release of PM10, PM2.5, benzene, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide dioxide, among other hazardous chemicals.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On September 14, 2018, EPA and START assessed the contact water from the tire fire and performed air

quality measurements on behalf of The City of Chicago. The runoff from the burning tire scraps contained a noticeable oil sheen and a distinct odor. Runoff migrated throughout the site and pooled in low-lying areas. Areas were diked leading to the Calumet River however some water was penetrating.

START performed air monitoring on 117th near the tire fire using an UltraRAE with benzene tubes. START also performed community air monitoring in residential areas on 9/14/18 located South Deering with results of non-detected for all constituents except VOCs which were 2.0 ppm (which may be attributed to sources not associated with the tire fire) and the East Side with results of non-detect for all constituents except VOCs which were 0.8 ppm (which may be attributed to equipment drift). On 9/15/18 START performed additional air monitoring with non-detect results for VOCs.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

For the reporting period from 9/14/18 18:30 to 9/16/18 16:00:

- Chicago Fire Department (CFD) has applied water to suppressed hot spots within the tire scraps;
- CFD applied AFF Foam in an attempt to suppress hotspots;
- Ozinga contracted with Environmental Restoration (ER) to perform cleanup;
- ER initially contracted with (3) Vac Trucks to remove contact water; By 9/16/18 (6) Vac Trucks were utilized at one time;
- ER initially contracted (2) frac tanks (~22k-gallons) and used a barge to store contact water (~300k-gallons); By 9/16/18 (9) frac tanks and two barges were utilized;
- ER placed boom in water migration route and Ozinga bermed along pooled areas leading to Calumet river;
- At 0530 (9/15) Ozinga began using a front end loader to break apart the tire scrap piles; By 9/16/18 three front end loaders and a long reach claw were utilized.
- START performed air monitoring in nearby neighborhoods; and
- START collected water samples of contact water throughout the site.
- CFD has stopped fire fighting activities as of 16:00 (9/16);

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The City of Chicago Department of Public Health requested EPA's assistance.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Ozinga has been issued a Notice of Federal Interest Letter. Chicago Port Rail Road is the land owner. Ozinga is the operator at the facility. It is our understanding that Liberty Tire is the owner of the tire scraps.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Contact Water (Frac Tank)	Water	190,000			
Contact Water (Barge Open Top)	Water	25,000			
Contact Water (Chem Barge)	Water	300,000			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Anticipated activities for the next reporting period:

- Ozinga will continue to break apart the tire scrap piles to provide managed areas eliminate hot spots;
- Ozinga contractors continue to remove contact water and containerize for treatment; Both vac trucks and "trash" pumps are being used to fill the chem barge onsite

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

All activities above.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Ozinga to reinforce any onsite drains to secure culverts from draining to river. Monitoring of the contact water will continue until it is no longer a threat to the waterway.

2.2.2 Issues

No issues to report.

2.3 Logistics Section

None

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

The USCG fund was opened for \$25,000. A ceiling increase to \$40,000 is expected and will be requested to the case manager.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	60.00%
Intramural Costs				

USEPA - Direct	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
USEPA - InDirect	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Site Costs	\$33,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$15,000.00	45.45%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

N/A

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

N/A

2.5.3 Information Officer

N/A

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

No unified command has ben implemented.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District

City of Chicago Department of Public Health

Chicago Fire Department

4. Personnel On Site

(2) EPA OSC

(3) START

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next reporting period will be following any major development or after the threat of release is mitigated.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.